



## **RFDS 14.00 FIRE WATCH**

The following standard contains detailed criteria which shall be used as a reference in conjunction with requirements for a fire watch or standby personnel from the Uniform Fire Code, specific permit conditions, other locations in Redmond Fire Department Standards, or by specific direction of Redmond Fire Department personnel.

### **14.1; FIRE WATCH FOR COMMERCIAL AND MULTI-FAMILY:**

In the event you are directed to provide a fire watch for your building or group of buildings, you shall meet the following requirements:

- 14.1.1; The fire watch shall be in place at the site by the time directed by the Redmond Fire Department (no later than 24 hours from the initial alarm or trouble signal).
- 14.1.2; You shall provide one fire watch per 50,000 square feet of gross floor area of commercial, warehouse, office, retail, or industrial building  
-OR-  
You shall provide one fire watch per 50 units of residential occupancy  
-OR-  
You shall provide a number of fire watch personnel as directed by the Redmond Fire Department.
- 14.1.3; A fire watch shall be a responsible adult who is a minimum of 18 years old who is capable of recognizing and responding to a fire emergency in an efficient and appropriate manner.
- 14.1.4; Each fire watch must be equipped with a portable radio, mobile phone, on site fixed radio, or fixed phone on site with which he/she can notify fire dispatch (911) of a fire emergency or can notify a constantly monitored communications center who in turn can directly and immediately notify 911 of an emergency.
- 14.1.5; The sole responsibility of the fire watch shall be to systematically and continuously make rounds of the building(s) under his/her responsibility, access all spaces available to him/her and report any fire emergency to 911 or a monitoring communications center.
- 14.1.6; Rotation and/or substitution of fire watch personnel must be provided for especially during extreme weather circumstances or prolonged duration to ensure constant and alert response to any fire emergency.
- 14.1.7; The fire watch shall continue until all systems have been restored, deficiencies have been corrected and the system is fully operational. A "Fire Watch" shall maintain a record of their activity or rounds as directed by the Fire Marshal.

### **14.2; FIRE WATCH FOR BURNING/LAND CLEARING:**

A fire watch in conjunction with a burn or land clearing permit or action shall meet the following requirements:

- 14.2.1; The fire watch shall be at the site at all times from the ignition of the burn until its total extinguishment.
- 14.2.2; There shall at no time be less than one fire watch and shall always be as many as necessary to control and/or extinguish the fire.
- 14.2.3; A fire watch shall be a responsible adult who is a minimum of 18 years old who is capable of recognizing and responding to a fire emergency in an efficient and appropriate manner. The fire watch shall be capable of efficiently and effectively operating all fire control equipment at the scene.
- 14.2.4; Each fire watch must be equipped with a portable radio, mobile phone, on site fixed radio, or fixed phone on site with which he/she can notify fire dispatch (911) of a fire emergency or can notify a constantly monitored communications center who in turn can directly and immediately notify 911 of an emergency. For a burn/land clearing situation only, such communication shall be within 1000' of the designated fire area.



- 14.2.5;** The sole responsibility of the fire watch shall be to systematically and continuously make rounds of the fire area and maintain continuous control of the fire under his/her responsibility, and report any fire emergency to 911 or a monitoring communications center.
- 14.2.6;** Rotation and/or substitution of fire watch personnel must be provided, especially during extreme weather circumstances or prolonged duration to ensure constant and alert response to any fire emergency, and maintain control of the fire.
- 14.2.7;** The "Fire Watch" shall maintain a record of their activity or rounds when, and as directed by the Fire Marshal.

**14.3; FIRE WATCH FOR PROBLEMATIC SYSTEMS OR DURING SYSTEM MAINTENANCE OR REMODEL:**

A fire watch in conjunction with problematic systems, or fire sprinkler or alarm systems which in part or in their entirety are out of service for maintenance or remodel shall meet the following requirements:

- 14.3.1;** In the event of temporary failure of the fire alarm system or an excessive number of accidental or non-fire alarm activations, the Fire Marshal is authorized to require the building owner or occupant to provide standby personnel as set forth in UFC 2501.18 until the system is restored. Refer to UFC 1001.5.3 and 1001.5.3.1.
- 14.3.2;** While the system is out of service for maintenance or repair, the technicians who have placed the system out of service shall be responsible for the duties of a fire watch as follows:
- The first responsibility of the fire watch shall be to notify all affected occupancies of the system work, estimated time out of service, and notification of any tests.
  - The fire watch shall systematically and regularly make rounds of the building(s) under his/her responsibility, access all spaces available to him/her and report any fire emergency to 911 or a monitoring communications center.
  - See also RFDS 9.7.5.